

HYBRID TWO-WAY RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A hybrid communication system communicates at least a portion of a message from a message server to a portable device using a wide area communication system such as a one-way communication operating on an FM SCA spectrum. The message may be a digitized voice message. Upon hearing the message, a user of the portable device records an audio response which is stored as a digital reply. When the portable device travels in range of a local area node 10 such as a short range node communicating on the ISM band. Communication is established and a bartering process allows the message to be relayed from the portable device through the local area node relay and back to the message server. The bartering operation requires an act or omission by the portable device and/or its user in exchange for the bandwidth used to relay the response. The act or omission may include exposure to advertising, communication of profile information, response to certain questions or traveling to certain locations, thereby eliminating a monetary exchange process in support of expenses related to the local area node and the bandwidth used.

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